

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Elect Species 6, without traverse.
2. Add new claims 60-65.

B. ELECTION

In response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2006 Applicant elects Species 6 (embodiment 6, Figs. 16, claims 15-20) for further prosecution in the event no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

This election is made without traverse. However, since a restriction requirement is never proper unless the restricted group of claims is patentably distinct (i.e., inter alia, non-obvious under 35 USC §103) from the elected group of claims, the Examiner is requested to insure that such patentable distinctness is present before proceeding to make the requirement final.

It is respectfully requested that the non-elected claims be retained.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

KANBE et al.
Serial No. 10/509,837

Atty Dkt: 1035-518
Art Unit: 2871

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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